

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00
USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 INR-10 L-03 ACDA-12 PA-01
SS-15 SP-02 TRSE-00 /061 W
-----106812 211414Z /41

O 211354Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3530
INFO USMISSION USNATO
CINCLANT NORFOLK VA
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER
USDEL MC BRUSSELS
USNMR SHAPE
DIA WASHDC
DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 01819

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: NATO, MPOL, MARR, SP, US
SUBJECT: SPAIN AND NATO -- WASHINGTON MEETING AND
MADRID SEMINAR

REF: (A) STATE 042740 (DTG 171957Z FEB 78)
(B) MADRID 00775 (DTG 231615Z JAN 78)
(C) USCINCEUR ECJ2-W 2034 (DTG 071242Z FEB 78) (NOTAL)

1. DATES OF MARCH 9 AND 10 FOR SEMINAR HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED
BY FOREIGN MINISTRY SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY OF OTHER
MINISTRY REPRESENTATIVES. WE EXPECT NO PROBLEM. WE ARE
PROCEEDING UNDER UNDERSTANDING THAT SEMINAR WILL BE HELD
IN CONTEXT OF REGULAR MEETINGS OF AD HOC COMMITTEE ON
COORDINATION WITH NATO (TO AVOID ITS TAKING ON LARGER THAN
LIFE APPEARANCE) AND WILL THEREFORE BE CHAIRED BY THAT
COMMITTEE'S CO-CHAIRMEN, FOREIGN MINISTRY DIRGEN FOR NORTH
AMERICAN AND PACIFIC, JUAN DURAN-LORIGA, AND EMBASSY
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MINISTER-COUNSELOR SAMUEL D. EATON. OTHER EMBASSY
PARTICIPATION AT THE TABLE WOULD CONSIST ONLY OF REGULAR
AD HOC COMMITTEE MEMBERS: CHIEF JUSMG-MAAG, MGEN SLADE
NASH, USAF, AND EMBASSY POL/MIL COUNSELOR ARTHUR E.
BREISKY. CMCPs CO-DIRECTOR MGEN. STAN MC CLELLAN, USA, IS
NOT A PARTICIPANT IN AD HOC COMMITTEE. WE CONTINUE TO
BELIEVE IT USEFUL TO MAINTAIN CERTAIN DISTANCE BETWEEN

SPAIN-NATO DIALOGUE AND CMCPs, AND THEREFORE MC CLELLAN WOULD PARTICIPATE IN SEMINAR AS AN OBSERVER UNLESS SPANISH THEMSELVES PLAN MORE ACTIVE ROLE FOR SPANISH CO-DIRECTOR OF CMCPs.

2. WE BELIEVE DRAFT AGENDA CONTAINED REF A WILL PROVE ACCEPTABLE TO SPANISH AS FRAMEWORK FOR SEMINAR, ON UNDERSTANDING THAT EITHER SIDE MAY RAISE ANY QUESTION IT WISHES, IN SPIRIT OF INFORMAL GIVE AND TAKE. WE WILL SUGGEST TO DURAN THAT GIBRALTAR NOT BE RAISED ON THIS OCCASION. HOWEVER, WE ALSO NOTE THAT THE ITEM LISTED BY THE EMBASSY IN REF B AS "BILATERAL DEFENSE ARRANGEMENTS AMONG NATO MEMBERS; IMPLICATIONS FOR THE U.S.-SPANISH TREATY" FINDS NO LOGICAL PLACE FOR DISCUSSION IN THE WASHINGTON DRAFT. IT WILL BE MORE DIFFICULT TO PERSUADE THE SPANISH THAT THIS SHOULD NOT BE DISCUSSED, SINCE IT IS HIGH ON THEIR LIST OF PRIORITIES. WE WILL ALSO FOREWARN DURAN THAT WE WOULD APPRECIATE A SPANISH LEAD IN INTRODUCING AN AGENDA ITEM ON THE "NATURE OF THE DEBATE ON NATO IN SPAIN" (ON WHICH EMBASSY IS PREPARING BRIEF BACKGROUND PAPER FOR SEMINAR PARTICIPANTS).

3. NASH, MC CLELLAN AND BREISKY WILL REPRESENT THIS MISSION AT WASHINGTON MEETING MARCH 1 AND 2 (BREISKY PLANS ARRIVE EVENING OF FEB. 28; WILL REQUIRE AUTHORIZATION FROM THE DEPARTMENT).
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4. MISSION REPS WOULD APPRECIATE OPPORTUNITY DURING WASHINGTON MEETING TO BRIEF PARTICIPANTS ON DEVELOPMENTS IN CMCPs, IN PARTICULAR THE PROGRESS MADE IN DEFINING THE MILITARY THREAT TO SPAIN. WE HOPE DISCUSSION OF MILITARY BALANCE AT SEMINAR CAN BE TAILORED TO SUPPORT OUR OBJECTIVES IN CMCPs.

5. WHILE IN WASHINGTON, MISSION REPS WILL ALSO WISH TO ENLIST ASSISTANCE FROM WASHINGTON AGENCIES IN DRAFTING OF PORTIONS OF THE THREAT ASSESSMENT FOR CMCPs. THEY WILL BE PREPARED TO IDENTIFY MORE SPECIFICALLY AT THAT TIME SPECIFIC ITEMS WHICH REQUIRE FURTHER TREATMENT IN ORDER TO COMPLETE THE THREAT ASSESSMENT. IN THIS RESPECT, WE ARE IN AGREEMENT EUCom's APPROACH OUTLINED IN REF C.

6. FURTHER EMBASSY COMMENTS ON THE PAPERS PREPARED FOR THE WASHINGTON MEETING MAY BE DELAYED SINCE WE DO NOT YET HAVE THEM BY POUCH AND WOULD EXPECT THEY WOULD ARRIVE FEBRUARY 22 OR 23 AT THE EARLIEST. STABLER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ALLIANCE, SEMINARS, REGIONAL DEFENSE ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978MADRID01819
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780078-0122
Format: TEL
From: MADRID
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780233/aaaabbtf.tel
Line Count: 114
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f7ff60d3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 42740, 78 MADRID 775
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3537540
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SPAIN AND NATO -- WASHINGTON MEETING AND MADRID SEMINAR
TAGS: MPOL, MARR, SP, US, NATO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f7ff60d3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014